

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1 1. (canceled):

1 2. (previously presented): The apparatus of claim 6, wherein said tapered
2 surface includes a portion of a sphere.

1 3. (previously presented): The apparatus of claim 6, wherein each said
2 mounting structure includes a spring pushing said bearing member inward.

1 4. (previously presented) The apparatus of claim 6, additionally comprising a
2 pivoting structure including said pair of spaced-apart side plates, wherein said
3 pivoting structure is opened to load said paper supply roll into said apparatus and
4 closed to print on a paper web from said paper supply roll.

1 5. (canceled)

1 6. (currently amended) Apparatus for rotatably holding a paper supply roll,
2 having a cylindrical peripheral surface and a hollow cylindrical core, within a
3 printer, wherein the apparatus comprises:

4 a lower support surface for engaging the peripheral surface of the paper
5 supply roll;

6 a cavity for holding the paper supply roll, extending within the printer
7 above the lower support surface;

8 a pair of spaced-apart side plates disposed within the cavity, wherein each
9 of the side plates includes a mounting structure; and

10 a bearing member held within each of the mounting structures, wherein
11 the bearing members are held in axial alignment with one another, wherein

12 each of the bearing members includes a tapered surface for
13 engaging the hollow cylindrical core,

each of the bearing members is mounted to be moved between an inward position having the tapered surface of the bearing member ~~position~~ disposed within the space between the side plates and an outward position having the tapered surface of the bearing member held out of the space between the side plates,

each of the bearing members is held in the inward position and in the outward position, and includes a flat surface opposite said tapered surface,

each said bearing member is held within said mounting structure in said inward position, with said tapered surface facing inward, and in said outward position, with said tapered surface facing outward.

each said bearing member includes parallel slots extending along opposite sides of said bearing member and a hole extending through said bearing member between said parallel slots, and

each said mounting structure is formed as a wire spring, pushing said bearing member inward, including a pair of legs extending within the slots at each side of said bearing member and an end portion extending from each of the legs within the hole extending through said bearing member.

7. (original): The apparatus of claim 6, wherein said mounting structure additionally includes a U-shaped portion with an open end extending from an end of each of said legs extending within the slots at each side of said bearing member.

8. (original): The apparatus of claim 7, additionally comprising a pair of hook-shaped structures holding each said mounting structure against opposite sides of said bearing member and holding said mounting structure to push said bearing member inward.

9-14. (canceled):

1 15. (previously presented): Apparatus for rotatably holding an end of a paper
2 supply roll, having a cylindrical peripheral surface and a hollow cylindrical core,
3 within a printer, wherein the apparatus comprises

4 a bearing member including a tapered surface for engaging the hollow
5 cylindrical core and a flat surface opposite said tapered surface wherein said
6 bearing member includes parallel slots extending along opposite sides of said
7 bearing member and a hole extending through said bearing member between
8 said parallel slots; and

9 a side plate including a mounting structure holding the bearing member in
10 an inward position with the tapered surface facing in an inward direction to
11 engage the hollow cylindrical core and in an outward position, with the tapered
12 surface facing opposite the inward direction, and wherein said mounting structure
13 is formed as a wire spring, pushing said bearing member inward, including a pair
14 of legs extending within the slots at each side of said bearing member and an
15 end portion extending from each of the legs within the hole extending through
16 said bearing member.

1 16. (original): The apparatus of claim 15, wherein said mounting structure
2 additionally includes a U-shaped portion with an open end extending from an end
3 of each of said legs extending within the slots at each side of said bearing
4 member.

1 17 (original): The apparatus of claim 16, additionally comprising a pair of hook-
2 shaped structures holding each said mounting structure against opposite sides of
3 said bearing member and holding said mounting structure to push said bearing
4 member inward.

1 18-23 (canceled):